Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 SAM-01 ACDA-19 AID-20 OPR-02 A-01 SY-10

OC-06 CCO-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 EB-11

DRC-01 /207 W

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R 011714Z MAR 74 FM AMEMBASSY RABAT TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1258 INFO USINT ALGIERS AMEMBASSY MADRID AMEMBASSY PARIS AMCONSUL CASABLANCA

AMCONSUL TANGIER

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E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PINS MO

SUBJECT: MOROCCAN SECURITY SITUATION: MORE OF SAME

REF: A. RABAT 735 B. CASABLANCA 172

1. AS RUMORS CONTINUE (REFTELS), MOROCCO REMAINS CALM AND THERE NO OUTWARD SIGNS OF DISSIDENCE, I.E., THERE HAVE BEEN NO NEW ACTS OR THREATS OF VIOLENCE, OR PUBLIC MANIFESTATIONS OF DISCONTENT. SIGNS OF GOM CONCERN THAT THERE MAY BE AN ATTEMPT OF SOME SORT AGAINST THE REGIME MARCH 3 ARE REAL, HOWEVER. MOST RECENT SIGNS, ALL MINOR, INCLUDE (A) NOTIFICATION TO US BY LOCAL POLICE THAT, IN VIEW WOUNDED KNEE ANNIVERSARY AND FEAST OF THRONE, THEY INCREASING POLICE GUARDS ON US INSTALLATIONS; (B) REPORTS THAT THERE IS A MODEST CALL-UP, POSSIBLE ROUTINE, SOME CONFIDENTIAL

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RESERVISTS IN PROCESS; AND (C) MOVEMENT OF TROOPS IN

CONNECTION WITH THRONE DAY CELEBRATIONS (USDAO'S IR $6\,865\,0038\,27\,{\rm FEB}\,74$).

- 2. WHILE CERTAIN GOM EDGINESS CLEAR, IT LESS CLEAR WHAT MOROCCANS ARE WORRIED ABOUT AND WHY: INFILTRATORS FROM LIBYA? RADICAL STUDENTS? POLITICAL RADICALS? ARMY OFFICERS? MARCH 3 ANNIVERSARY OF LAST YEAR'S ABORTIVE POPULAR REVOLUTION PERHAPS PROVIDES APPROPRIATE OCCASION FOR RENEWED ATTEMPT OF SOME SORT, ALTHOUGH THAT ASSUMES A SENTIMENTAL ATTACHMENT TO DATES THAT IS AT LEAST DEBATABLE. THE POSSIBILITIES FOR STARTING A POPULAR UPRISING, ARE NOT GOOD. THERE IS GOOD DEAL OF DISCONTENT WITH RISING PRICES, LACK OF EMPLOYMENT, CORRUPTION AND GOVERNMENT INCOMPETENCE, BUT IT DOES NOT APPEAR TO HAVE REACH BOILING POINT. THERE ALWAYS POSSIBILITY OF SOME INCIDENT SPARKING MASSIVE DEMONSTRATIONS, OR CAMPAIGN OF DISSIDENCE, BUT POPULAR ISSUES THAT ARE SUBJECT OF MUCH OPEN AGITATION TODAY. PEOPLE GRUMBLE, BUT DO NOT SEEM DESPERATE.
- 3. IF SOMETHING DOES OCCUR MARCH 3 IT LIKELY BE ISOLATED ACT OR ACTS BY INDIVIDUALS OR SMALL GROUPS. SOME SORT OF ACTION BY ARMED FORCES AGAINST REGIME IS ALSO THEORETICAL POSSIBILITY, BUT WE THINK IT HIGHLY IMPROBABLE. THERE HAVE BEEN VARIOUS REPORTS OF DISCONTENT WITHIN ARMED FORCES BUT AS OF THIS MOMENT WE DOUBT IT HAS REACHED PITCH NECESSARY TO START TROUBLE. FURTHERMORE, THERE NOTHING SPECIAL ABOUT MARCH 3 AS FAR AS MILITARY CONCERNED.
- 4. ACCOMPANYING GENERAL PARTAIN I SAW KING IN FES FEBRUARY 28. HE AND MOULAY HAFID, MINISTER OF ROYAL HOUSEHOLD, SEEMED MOST RELAXED AND SURE OF SELVES. KING SAID THERE WAS PROBLEM OF RISING PRICES AND INSUFFICIENT SALARIES, AND INDICATED HE AWARE OF WILD RUMORS, BUT ALSO INDICATED HE THOUGHT SITUATION WELL IN HAND. WE INCLINED TO AGREE. IT IS OUR GUESS THAT MARCH 3 WILL PASS QUIETLY. THERE MAY BE ISOLATED ACTS OF VIOLENCE, BUT EVEN THAT WILL BE DIFFICULT GIVEN PRESENT STATE OF ALERT OF SECURITY FORCES. ONCE DATE IS PASSED, WE WOULD EXPECT UNEASE TO SUBSIDE. NEUMANN CONFIDENTIAL

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Message Attributes

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EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

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Subject: MOROCCAN SECURITY SITUATION: MORE OF SAME

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